

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/835,987

Examiner

Shawki S. Ismail

Applicant(s)

WINKELER ET AL.

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication received on 10/02/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16, 19-23, 29, 31-35, and 38-41 re-numbered 1-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20062012.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Bharat Barot
BHARAT BAROT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINERS AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such amendment, it must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Williams (Reg. No. 50,658) on December 19, 2006.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 29-33, 35-39 and 41-44 have been replaced with the following amended claims 29-33, 35-39 and 41-44.

29. (Currently Amended) A system for accessing a semaphore, the system comprising:

a first computer system, wherein the first computer system comprises a first processor and a first memory medium, wherein the first processor is coupled to the first memory medium; and

a computer memory, wherein the computer memory comprises the semaphore, wherein the semaphore is operable to store data of any of a plurality of different data types, wherein the semaphore comprises data of a first data type of the plurality of different data types, wherein the computer memory is coupled to the first computer system;

wherein the plurality of different data types comprise two or more of:

- WAV file;
- numeric;
- text;
- tabbed text file;
- DSD file;
- formatted vector;
- formatted array; or
- tab delimited spreadsheet data;

wherein the first memory medium comprises a first application that includes a first software component, wherein the first software component is executable by the first processor to:

receive a uniform resource locator (URL) which specifies a location of the semaphore, wherein URL is received in response to user input;

communicatively couple to the computer memory using the URL;

access the semaphore, wherein, in said accessing the semaphore, the first software component is further executable by the first processor to access the data comprised in the semaphore, wherein accessing the data comprised in the semaphore is performed irrespective of the first data type of the data comprised in the semaphore;

and

convert the data into a format useable by the first application.

Art Unit: 2155

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[30]]~~ 29, further comprising:

a network;

wherein the first computer system is coupled to the network;

wherein the computer memory is coupled to the network;

wherein, in said accessing the semaphore, the first software component is further executable by the first processor to communicate through the network with the computer memory.

32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 31, wherein the location information is a network location of the network.

33. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein, in converting the data, the first software component is further executable by the first processor to:

convert the data comprised in the semaphore to a second data type, wherein the second data type is different from the first data type.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer accessible memory medium comprising program instructions to access data from a semaphore, wherein the program instructions ~~which~~ are executable by a processor to:

Art Unit: 2155

receive a uniform resource locator (URL) which specifies a location of the semaphore, wherein URL is received in response to user input;

communicatively couple to a computer memory comprising a semaphore using the URL;

access [[a]] the semaphore, wherein the semaphore is operable to store data of any of a plurality of different data types;

wherein the plurality of different data types comprise two or more of:

WAV file;

numeric;

text;

tabbed text file;

DSD file;

formatted vector;

formatted array; or

tab delimited spreadsheet data;

wherein, in said accessing the semaphore, the program instructions are further executable to access data comprised in the semaphore, wherein accessing the data comprised in the semaphore is performed irrespective of a data type of the data comprised in the semaphore;

convert the data into a format useable by an application stored in the memory medium.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim ~~[[36]]~~ 35, wherein the location information ~~indicates~~ is a network location associated with a network;

wherein, in said accessing the semaphore, the program instructions are further executable to communicatively couple to the network location through the network.

39. (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim 35, wherein, in converting the data, the program instructions are further executable to:

convert the data type of the data comprised in the semaphore to a different data type.

41. (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim 35, ~~wherein the program instructions are further executable to:~~

~~convert the data comprised in the semaphore to a format, wherein the format comprises the data comprised in the semaphore and at least one attribute associated with the data comprised in the semaphore.~~

42-44 (Canceled)

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Claims 1-16, 19-23, 29, 31-35, and 38-41 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The examiner has found that the prior art of record does not teach or suggest or render obvious a system and method for accessing data from a semaphore stored in a computer memory wherein a first software component in a first application accesses data from a semaphore, wherein the semaphore stores data of a plurality of types and the plurality of different data types comprises two or more of a wav file; numeric; text; tabbed text file; DSD file; formatted array; or tab delimited spreadsheet data. A URL specifying the location of the semaphore is received in response to user input and the location information is used by the first software component to access the data comprised in the semaphore, the first software component converting the data into a format useable by the first application after the software component connects to the computer memory and received the data as set forth in the specification and recited in the independent claims.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Art Unit: 2155

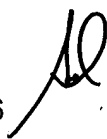
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawki S Ismail whose telephone number is 571-272-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shawki Ismail
Patent Examiner
December 20, 2006




BHARAT BAROT
PRIMARY EXAMINER